

Message

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Sent: 6/3/2013 1:14:15 AM
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Subject: BBA: Status and Next Steps

It has been a few weeks since an update was shared with the team. As you know, our revised draft Bristol Bay Assessment was released to the public on April 26. The initial public comment period was to expire on May 31. However, on May 30, the decision was made to extend the public comment period 30 days to June 30 so as to allow the public more opportunity to review and comment on the revised assessment. As of May 24, 2013 at 5 p.m., the EPA BB docket had received and posted a total of **142,820** comment letters. Of these, 520 are unique letters and 142,300 are from 18 different mass mailing campaigns (17 of which are supportive of EPA and 1 opposed).

Members of the 2012 peer review panel have been contacted to evaluate how well our revised draft assessment addressed their comments on the May 2012 draft. The contracts for the peer reviewers are just now being put in place. I expect that our peer reviewers will be done with their evaluation about the first week in July.

Our next steps will be to review and evaluate the comments received from our peer reviewers and the comments sent in to the docket from members of the public. I suspect that our review and evaluation will commence in July, and any needed revisions to the assessment will be done in August and September. Our intent remains to complete the assessment in calendar year 2013.

Thanks again for all your hard work. We still have a way to go to the finish line, but we are almost there.

Jeff

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